

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

AGR-20 CU-04 LOC-01 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 EA-11 FRB-02 INR-10 IO-14 NEA-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

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FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1400

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE USOECD PARIS 31995

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, OECD

SUBJECT: OECD COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF AGRICULTURAL REVIEW

REF: STATE 242391

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DISCUSSION DECEMBER 12 SHOWED THAT OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF DELS AND SECGEN FELT AGRICULTURAL REVIEW WAS OF MARGINAL VALUE AND WERE PREPARED TO SEE IT ABOLISHED. US WAS SINGLE DEL TO ARGUE STRONGLY FOR MAINTAINANCE OF REVIEW (REFTEL), RECEIVING ONLY WEAK SUPPORT FROM AUSTRALIAN DEL WHO DID NOT WISH TO LEAVE US IN COMPLETE ISOLATION, AND SWISS DEL WHO SAID REVIEW WAS READ WITH INTEREST IN CERTAIN CIRCLES OF SWITZERLAND. CANADIAN DEL WAS INSTRUCTED TO FAVOR MAINTAINANCE OF REVIEW BUT AGREED TO ACCEDE TO WILL OF MAJORITY IN INTEREST OF MORE COMPELLING NEED TO ABOLISH LOW PRIORITY ACTIVITY. AT LATER CONFIDENTIAL MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS CONVENED BY SECGEN VAN LENNEP, AND AGAIN IN EXCOMM SESSION DEC. 14, SWISS AND AUSTRALIAN DELS JOINED CANADIAN IN AGREEING TO ABOLISH REVIEW THEREBY ISOLATING US AS SINGLE DEL. SINGLE DEL SUPPORTING ITS

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CONTINUATION.

2. IF WE PERSIST IN STANDING ALONE ON THIS ISSUE, WE WILL
FORECLOSE PROSPECT OF COUNCIL APPROVAL DECEMBER 17 OF 1974
OECD BUDGET. WE WOULD ALSO UNDERMINE OUR CREDIBILITY AND
OUR ABILITY TO GAIN COUNCIL SUPPORT NOW AND IN FUTURE FOR
OFT-REPEATED WASHINGTON PRINCIPLE OF EFFECTING CURTAILMENT
OF LOW PRIORITY OECD ACTIVITIES AND FOR KEEPING
BUDGET WITHIN CIRCUMSCRIBED LIMITS. THESE CIRCUM-
STANCES PROMPT MISSION TO REQUEST DEPARTMENT TO RECONSIDER
ITS POSITION IN REFTEL AND TO AUTHORIZE MISSION TO AGREE TO
ABOLITION OF AGRICULTURAL REVIEW IN COUNCIL DECEMBER 17.
BROWN

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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